

|  |   |                          |                  |
|--|---|--------------------------|------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO                            |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                  |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> |   | Application Number       | Not yet assigned |
|  |   | Filing Date              | April 12, 2004   |
|  |   | First Named Inventor     | Dana Wold        |
|  |   | Group Art Unit           |                  |
|  |   | Examiner Name            |                  |
|  |   | Attorney Docket Number   | 14277            |
| (use as many sheets as necessary)                        |   |                          |                  |
| Sheet  | 1 | Of                       | 1                |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |                       |  |                                |  |   |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials * | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                            | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                        |                       | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
| [Signature]            | U1                    | US-6,460,879                               | 10/08/2002                     | Tanase et al.                                      |   |
|                        | U2                    | US-6,257,616                               | 07/10/2001                     | Nowak et al.                                       |   |
|                        | U3                    | US-6,152,482                               | 11/28/2000                     | Patel et al.                                       |   |
|                        | U4                    | US-6,079,732                               | 06/27/2000                     | Nakajima et al.                                    |   |
|                        | U5                    | US-2002/0140211                            | 10/03/2002                     | Takahara   |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |   |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials *   | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |   |   |                |
| [Signature]              | F1                    | EP - 0 904 992  | 03/31/1999                     | Toyota Jidosha<br>Kabushiki Kaisha                    |   |                |
|                          | F2                    | EP - 0 836 970  | 04/22/1998                     | Happich GMBH<br>Gebr                                  |   |                |
|                          | F3                    | EP - 0 791 511  | 08/27/1997                     | TRW Repa GMBH   |   |                |

|                       |             |                    |          |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|----------|
| Examiner<br>Signature | [Signature] | Date<br>Considered | 12/23/05 |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|----------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and selection option 2.